

HANLEY HOUSE HERALD



Volume 5 Issue 1 2013

A Newsletter for Friends of the Historic Martin Franklin Hanley House

The History of the Restoration of the Hanley House in Clayton

By Sarah Umlauf

With great thanks to the generosity of Susan B. Hanley, the Robert J. Trulaske, Jr. Family Foundation, Mary and Oliver Langenberg, the Clayton Century Foundation and the City of Clayton, the Historic Hanley House is undertaking needed restoration projects. Both the front and rear porches of the museum have been reconstructed and will be dedicated on April 4, 2013. Also, the City of Clayton began the window conservation project which is expected to be completed until June, 2013. As the Historic Hanley House enters a new phase of restoration, it affords the opportunity to pause and look back at the history of the restoration of the museum over time.

The surviving Greek revival farmhouse and summer kitchen were built in 1855 by Martin F. Hanley. Mr. Hanley was responsible for building the house, but it is the women of the family that we may credit with preserving the home for posterity. Cyrene Clemens Hanley, wife of Martin Hanley, lived in the home from the time of its completion until her death in 1894. Nancy Caroline Hanley, sometimes called Carrie and later referred to as Aunt Cal, was the oldest surviving Hanley child and lived in the home from when she was a teenager until her death in 1938. And then Barbara Yore, granddaughter to Martin and Cyrene Hanley and niece to her beloved Aunt Cal, moved in to the Hanley House along with her sister Byrd around 1920. Neither Barbara nor Byrd ever married but wished to care for their aging Aunt Cal. The sisters continued living in the house following the death of their aunt and then following Byrd's death in 1954, Barbara continued to live in the Greek revival home. As Barbara aged, she began to rethink her living situation and contemplated selling the old farmstead.

Barbara had been approached by many prospective buyers and had refused them all until 1968, when Barbara was approached by the City of Clayton. The City was interested in purchasing the home and restoring it for the purpose of opening an historic house museum. With the Bicentennial fast approaching, many municipalities became history-centric and applications for the national register of historic places surged. The Historic Martin F. Hanley House being one example.

After consulting with her relatives, Barbara agreed to sell the Hanley House, along with all of its contents and the surrounding acre of land, to the City of Clayton for \$55,000. The City of Clayton approved another \$36,000 for the restoration of the home. A team of consultants was quickly formed. Luckily, Mayor Hy Waltuch took a personal stake in the restoration efforts of the Historic Hanley House. He truly became a driving force behind the mission. The team of consultants included preservation architect Gerhardt Kramer, antique dealers Margo and Roland Jester, landscape designer Edith Mason, research specialist and archivist Ethel Konzelman, archaeologist Dr. Robert Bray, and last but certainly not least, Charles van Ravenswaay.

(continued on page 3)



At near right is Barabra Yore standing near the Hanley House well, ca. 1920. At far right is Barbara Yore in 1968.

www.HanleyHouse.org



From the Desk of Sarah Umlauf

Community Resource Coordinator for the City of Clayton



2013 will mark so many wonderful milestones for the Hanley House and the City of Clayton. On April 7, the City of Clayton will mark its 100th anniversary of incorporation. If you have driven through Clayton recently, you may have noticed special banners on the lighposts that commemorate this achievement. So many fun and exciting programs will help the community celebrate throughout 2013. A special website, clayton2013.com, will keep an up-to-date calendar of activities.

For the Hanley House, we are so pleased to celebrate major restoration projects at the museum in 2013. Thanks to the generous support of Mary and Oliver Langenberg, Susan B. Hanley, the Robert J. Trulaske, Jr. Family Foundation, the Clayton Century Foundation and the City of Clayton, both the front and rear porches of the Historic Hanley House have been reconstructed and an accessible ramp has been added. Additionally, within the past year, both the stone-laid foundation and the brick masonry were thoroughly tuck pointed. We hope that you will join us to celebrate the completion of these projects on Thursday, April 4th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The event will feature live music, beer, wine and light refreshments.

While in the park, you will notice something missing from the Historic Hanley House. The City of Clayton has begun the renovation of the Hanley House windows. Original to the structure, the wooden windows have suffered with age. They were carefully removed from their frames and sent to a studio for conservation. This extensive project will delay the 2013 opening of the Hanley House until June.

We are thrilled to have begun such an important project and look forward to the return of the original windows, but the Friends of the Hanley House will notice one other fixture missing from Hanley Park: Bob Vander Linden. Sadly, Bob passed away in November 2012. It will be difficult to be in Hanley Park this spring as his presence will be noticeably absent.

Through his hard work and dedication, Bob kept the park beautiful. From his constant weeding to his generous mulching, his talents as a Master Gardner truly blessed us all. I am personally grateful for his and Mary Ellen's support of my programs. And I am especially grateful to Bob for taking care of any dead animal that I may have come across in the park.

Hanley Park will not be the same without Bob Vander Linden.



At near right is the restoration team pictured behind the Hanley House.

At far right is a detail of Charles van Ravenswaay (left) and Mayor Hy Waltuch (right).



(continued from page 1)

Charles van Ravenswaay joined the project at the special request of his friend and former classmate, Hy Waltuch. Van Ravenswaay directed the restoration of the Hanley House at no charge to the City of Clayton. As the former director of the Missouri Historical Society, van Ravenswaay was director of the Winterthur Museum in Delaware during the Hanley House restoration. We are so fortunate that Mayor Waltuch was able to secure such a prestigious director for the restoration. The importance of this project to Mayor Waltuch is evident in the following quote:

A city is more than traffic control, police and fire protection, and rubbish collection. A city without cultural endeavor is a city without esthetic identity and human appeal.

A city must fulfill the human and cultural needs of modern civilization. We are gratified that the City of Clayton has had the opportunity to participate in this purely cultural project of the Hanley House restoration. Succeeding generations will be enriched by this link to another era.

- Mayor Hy Waltuch, 1971

At the start of the project, van Ravenswaay was encouraged by what he saw and quickly set to creating guidelines for the restoration. One of his first directions was to execute an archaeological survey of the site. Dr. Robert Bray of the University of Missouri, Columbia, excavated the site with his students during the summer of 1969. In viewing a photograph from that period, one can see scaffolding erected around the Hanley House showing the reconstruction of the porches as well as the start of tuck pointing the masonry.

The archaeological work of Dr. Bray uncovered the location of the well on the property. Further evidence including the original fence line, cisterns, and even a stone lined privy were also uncovered. While the archaeological evidence was undeniable, Dr. Bray had other tools at his disposal when surveying the Hanley site. There were surviving photographs of the property dating to the 19th century. These photos along with the testimonials of surviving Hanley family descendents provided valuable information to the restoration team.



Archaeologists from the University of Missouri, Columbia excavate the grounds Northwest of the Hanley House.

Van Ravenswaay and the restoration team were in a fortunate position in that the Hanley House had always remained within the Hanley family. Only three generations occupied the home. Not only were many of the furnishings original to the property, but there were living witnesses that could direct the staging of the house to reflect how that home would have looked in the 19th century. Van Ravenswaay was specifically targeting a restoration date of 1890-94. These were the final years of Cyrene Hanley's life and van Ravenswaay felt that this time period would reflect the home as being "lived in."

The interior of the home contained many furnishings dating to the time the home was first inhabited. Van Ravenswaay found that the interior structure of the home was in relatively good condition:

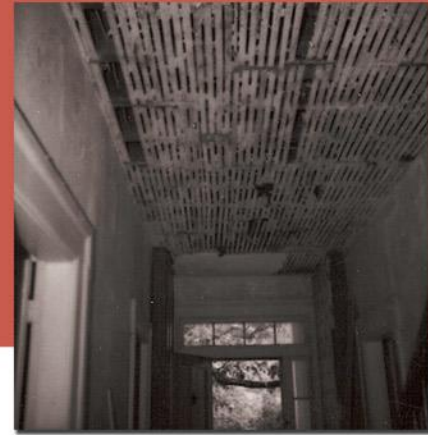
Because so much that is original has survived, the work that needs to be done to return the property to its appearance in the years before the turn of the century is not reconstruction or even restoration in the usual sense, but more like a cleaning-up and repair job, eliminating the traces of the 20th century and returning the original furnishings to the places they occupied at an earlier time.

Surely, the restoration of the property required a great deal

(continued on page 4)



These four photographs show the Hanley House during its restoration.



(continued from page 3)

more than just cleaning-up and performing repairs as van Ravenswaay had alluded to in his statement. The restoration team first had to determine the stability of the home then install modern updates including heating and air conditioning while at the same time disguising these modern necessities. They had to peel away layers of paper and plaster to determine the 19th century paper style as well as the color of 19th century interior paint.

The restorers struggled with the problem of concealing the HVAC system. They could not find a way to get the ductwork to the second floor. They chose to install a faux closet on the first level on the Hanley House in the Dining Room in order to achieve the disguise.

For the majority of the rooms, the restoration team relied on science to uncover the color scheme for the late 19th century design of the Hanley House. The Supervisor of Painters for the Winterthur Museum analyzed samples of paint and evaluated layers of paper to determine the best paint colors and paper styles to use in re-decorating the Hanley House for the 1890's.

The restorers discovered several areas with original painted surfaces including the faux-grained woodwork in the Dining Room and the faux-grained woodwork bedroom doors opening from the second floor hall. This pleased the restorers as faux-grain woodwork is a difficult skill to master. The cost to hire a craftsman to

recreate the faux-oak would have been superfluous to the restoration budget. The restorers also found that the black painted mantels were original as were the white washed walls of the outdoor kitchen. For the remaining painted surfaces in the house including baseboards, doors, windows and floors, the restorers relied on the paint analysis to guide them.

In looking at the original condition of the Hanley House furnishings prior to the restoration of the home, the restorers only retained objects that dated earlier than 1900 in order to adhere to the period chosen by van Ravenswaay. Fortunately, van Ravenswaay's relationship with Mayor Waltuch eased his efforts of restoration but he did note that:

City administrations change and all cultural efforts are generally the first to suffer from unsympathetic management and the tightening of civic budgets. Too often such activities become the dumping ground for political patronage.

This observation was fortuitous for although Hanley House benefitted greatly from the work of van Ravenswaay and his team, the home suffered from neglect from the subsequent generation until 1993. Around this time, spurred on by the removal of the champion Great Oak that stood in front of the Hanley House for over 200 years, the Clayton Historical Society was formed. A renewed interest was born in the Hanley House. An herb garden was installed as well as other plantings thanks to the support of the Ladue Garden Club.

Around 1995, the City of Clayton commissioned Ralph Wafer Associates to conduct a study of the Hanley House. Most of their recommendations were superficial and only cosmetic at that time.

In 2005, the City of Clayton once again revisited the Hanley House. The condition of the museum seemed to deteriorate as did interest in the Historic House Museum. A new Hanley House



At left is a view of the Hanley House prior to restoration. Note the original black mantel in the background.



Commission was formed to make a formal recommendation to the City of Clayton regarding the future of the house. Choices included moving the house to a more visible location like Shaw Park, demolishing the home to make way for more green space, shuttering the home and maintaining the exterior but abandoning tours or make a commitment to make needed improvements to stabilize the home. The Hanley House Commission recommended the latter. The City committed \$75,000 per year to help with restoration costs. The first step included the execution of a new Building Assessment Study.



The City of Clayton hosts the Hanley House Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission and PTO at the Hanley House.

In 2007, the Lawrence Group identified approximately 1.3 million dollars in restoration needs. The Lawrence Group prioritized repairs listing the most critical needs. The City of Clayton set to work executing the most critical needs including replacing the aging roof. Originally asbestos tile as required by the strict fire codes in Clayton, the heavy tile caused cracking and damage in the house. The opportunity allowed the City to alleviate the stress and replace a failing roof with a more accurate cedar shake style.

Following the roof, the City replaced the failing heating and cooling system. The cooling system had previously been contained within the cellar of the house but the updated, energy efficient system required that external cooling units be installed on the

The two images pictured above reflect damage that was observed in the 1995 Survey performed by Ralph Wafer. Below is a view of the installation of the cedar shake roof on the detached kitchen following the recommendations outlined in the Building Assessment Survey submitted by the Lawrence Group in 2007.



property. In order to disguise the units, the City took the opportunity to reinterpret the reconstructed Outhouse into a larger, two door house as was shown in a surviving photograph from the Hanley collection.

Due to the high costs associated with the restoration of the Historic Hanley House, friends of the museum have partnered with the Clayton Century Foundation to help achieve its financial goals. Since the creation of this partnership, the City of Clayton has erected a pavilion with accessible restrooms in Hanley Park, accessible walkways have been installed throughout the park, an outdoor chess table has been donated and the front and rear porches have been reconstructed. Additionally, new interpretive signage is under development and the City of Clayton is in the process of restoring the original wooden windows of the home.

The museum carries on in its mission to preserve the Historic Hanley House while keeping in mind the words of its original director, Charles van Ravenswaay:

The long-range success of the project depends not only on the care with which the work of rehabilitation is carried out but more importantly, on the long-range planning for its proper care, supervision of housekeeping, and the reception of the public.



SUMMER

CAMPS



**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!**

Mrs. Yore's Academy for Girls

July 8-12
9am to 4pm

Discover what it was like to be a young girl living during the 1800's at the Hanley House in Clayton, Missouri.

A variety of fun activities are planned including creating a journal, 19th century games and crafts, manners every young lady needs to know and much more. Ladies will participate in a daily afternoon tea. Registration required and includes all supplies and snacks.



Open to girls ages 6 to 9.
Limited to 10 participants.
\$250 for residents.
\$275 for non-residents.

Code 14703

Mrs. Hanley's Academy for Young Ladies

July 15-19
9am to 4pm

Discover what it was like to be a young lady living during the 1800's at the Hanley House in Clayton, Missouri.

Ladies will learn basic sewing techniques and will create their own sampler. Ladies will also learn traditional dances, social graces, parlor games, and much more. Ladies will participate in a daily afternoon tea. Registration required and includes all supplies and snacks.



Open to girls ages 10 to 12.
Limited to 10 participants.
\$250 for residents.
\$275 for non-residents.

Code 14705

CIVIL WAR CAMP FOR YOUNG MEN

July 22 - 26
9am to 4pm

Learn what it was like to live in the 1800's at the Hanley House in Clayton, Missouri.

Activities include learning about military camp life and Civil War spies, creating herbal remedies from the garden, participate in an archaeology dig, and learn how to play 19th century games. A variety of fun activities are planned during this camp. Afternoons will feature a cookout over a camp fire. Registration required and includes all supplies and snacks.



Open to boys ages 8 to 12.
Limited to 10 participants.
\$250 for residents.
\$275 for non-residents.

Code 14704

REGISTER FOR CAMPS at the Center of Clayton, call 314-290-8500 or visit:
www.centerofclayton.com

Did you know...



...that Hanley Park will have an outdoor Chess Table this spring? Located near the Hanley Park Pavilion, the new Chess Table will offer hours of enjoyment to our visitors. Try your skill at chess with these four puzzles and then come to Hanley Park to try the real thing! Be sure to bring your chess pieces for play.

1. Black moves for checkmate.



2. Black moves for checkmate.



3. White moves for checkmate.



4. White moves for checkmate.



Answers: 1. Rook moves to d1, checkmate. 2. Knight moves to f2, checkmate. 3. Queen takes the pawn in h6, checkmate (the queen can't be captured as the pawn g7 is pinned by the bishop e5). 4. Rook moves to h3, checkmate.

MARTIN FRANKLIN

HANLEY HOUSE

— PORCH DEDICATION —



**THURSDAY
APRIL 4**
4:30pm - 6:30pm

LIVE MUSIC *on the* FRONT PORCH

Featuring music by Buckhannon Brothers and
Clayton High School Junior, Carly Beard

Wine, beer and light refreshments will be served.
RSVP required to sumlauf@claytonmo.gov or 314-290-8553

Mark your calendars!



April 4, 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Hanley House Porch Party, rsvp requested.
April 27, 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Hanley House Herb Sale. Heirloom varieties.
June 8, 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Historic Walking Tour, begins in Wydown Park.
July 8 - July 26. Hanley House Summer Camps, see page 6 for more details.

Hanley House Herb Sale

Saturday, April 27th
8 am to 10 am

Join us in Hanley Park for the annual Historic Hanley House Herb Sale. Featuring only heirloom varieties, this is your chance to buy your spring herbs and support the museum. Herbs sold for a cost of \$4 each.

